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Preparing for the Strong Customer Authentication UK deadline

All merchants, acquirers, gateways, and issuing banks or payment service providers must be ready to support Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) by 14 March 2022 for all UK-issued cards. SCA will be required for all customer-initiated UK electronic transactions whether they're face-to-face or remote, except in specific exemption cases.

Here's what you should know in order to prepare.



Elements of SCA

SCA involves the use of multi-factor authentication for electronic payments to further increase security and reduce fraud, requiring the authentication of at least two of the following:

- Knowledge: Something only the customer knows, like a passphrase or a PIN number
- Possession: Something only the customer has, like a device or a card
- Inherence: Something only the customer is, like a biometric fingerprint or retinal scan



Your SCA readiness checklist

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Review your website and current payment methods to determine if an update to 3D Secure or 3D Secure 2 is necessary.



Conduct additional testing before going live with 3D Secure to validate the process in your shopping cart flows correctly.



Update payment methods so that they handle 3D Secure or 3D Secure 2.



Work with your payment gateway to help implement 3D Secure or 3D Secure 2.



Inform customers of the changes and highlight the benefits that 3D Secure and 3D Secure 2 provides to the online shopping experience.



If you own or rent your terminal from another source or use a third party provider for your ecommerce service, contact them immediately to ensure your transactions are flagged correctly.



Work with your payment gateway to validate that you're:

- Identifying transaction capture methods correctly
- Correctly utilising the scheme reference data
- Populating the credential on file requirements, including the MIT exception flag for those transactions initiated without cardholder involvement.



Types of SCA exemptions

You can request the use of an exemption from SCA requirements, removing friction from requiring multi-factor authentication. Exemptions could be:

- Low-value transactions: An exemption can be applied to a certain number of lowvalue (<€30) transactions before requiring authentication, or once the combined value of multiple payments exceeds €100.
- Low-risk transactions: Payment providers with low fraud rates can use real-time transaction risk analysis to apply for exemptions on behalf of its sellers up to €500 per transaction.
- **Recurring payments:** For subscriptions, recurring transactions, or merchant initiated transactions, customers only need to authorise the payment the first time.
- Trusted seller status: Consumers can request to whitelist a business as safe, removing the need to authenticate additional transactions once approved by the issuer.
- Contactless in-store transactions: Some face-to-face contactless card transactions may still require Chip & Pin if the payment exceeds certain parameters, like a threshold or combined value amount.
- Contact-free payments: Mail order and telephone order (MOTO) transactions are not considered electronic payments and are exempt from SCA in all cases.

Global Payments 3D Secure 2 authentication

We can help you meet payment requirements like SCA with our 3D Secure 2 authentication service. 3D Secure 2, the latest version of the ecommerce authentication protocol that supports SCA, advances the original 3D Secure to better meet the requirements of modern



remote payments.

Our 3D Secure 2 service provides effortless authentication for a faster checkout, improved security, and increased conversion. This solution is available as part of our payment gateway offering or as a standalone service that can be used with your own gateway provider.

Contact us to learn more about 3D Secure 2.



A new era of security is here

Ensure that your payment methods support SCA by the 14 March 2022 deadline. If not SCA compliant by the deadline, merchants may be fined and card issuers may be required to decline transactions.

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